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August 31, 2004

The Honorable Board of Supervisors
County of Los Angeles
383 Kenneth Hahn Hall of Administration
500 West Temple Street
Los Angeles, California 90012

Dear Supervisors:

**AUTHORIZE THE DISTRICT ATTORNEY TO ACCEPT THIRD YEAR
GRANT FUNDS FROM THE UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF
JUSTICE (DOJ) FOR THE URBAN HIGH CRIME NEIGHBORHOOD
INITIATIVE (UHCNI) PROGRAM (SECOND DISTRICT) (3-VOTES)**

IT IS RECOMMENDED THAT YOUR BOARD:

1. Authorize the District Attorney, on behalf of the County of Los Angeles, to accept third year grant funds from DOJ, Office for Victims of Crime (OVC) for the UHCNI Program. The grant award amount of \$150,000 fully offsets program costs for the period of September 1, 2004 through August 31, 2005.
2. Authorize the District Attorney to execute the Grant Award Agreement on behalf of the County of Los Angeles.
3. Authorize the District Attorney or his designee, on behalf of the County of Los Angeles, to serve as Project Director for the UHCNI Program and to sign and approve any revisions to the Grant Award Agreement that do not affect the net County cost of the Agreement.

PURPOSE/JUSTIFICATION OF RECOMMENDED ACTION

The District Attorney's Office has been awarded grant funding from OVC in the amount of \$150,000 for the period September 1, 2004 through August 31, 2005 to improve existing and develop new comprehensive services to the unserved and underserved victims of crime in the Watts Community.

Board authorization is required to accept the grant award for this period.

Implementation of Strategic Plan Goals

Acceptance of the grant funds supports the County's Strategic Plan Goal No. 4, Fiscal Responsibility by securing an available revenue source at the federal level. The program is part of the District Attorney's commitment to helping victims of crime by alleviating trauma and devastating effects of crime on the lives of victims and their families.

FISCAL IMPACT/FINANCING

This is the third year of grant funding for the program. The grant award amount of \$150,000 fully offsets program costs for the period of September 1, 2004 through August 31, 2005.

Program staffing consists of one Assistant Program Administrator at 5%, one Supervising Victim Service Representative at 20%, two Victim Service Representative II, one at 100% and the other at 50%, and two Student Professional Workers at 100%.

If funding for this program were terminated, an evaluation would be conducted to determine whether the program would either be continued with costs being absorbed by the department, or discontinued with the reallocation of staff to vacant budgeted positions.

FACTS AND PROVISIONS

The Watts Community has several unique social, economic, and societal factors. There are two primary ethnic groups that represent the community, African American (44%) and Latino (56%). The community has a high crime rate with criminal activities prevalent within four housing developments. Residents regularly are victims of homicides, gang violence, drug use and sales, extortion, aggravated assault and battery, armed robbery, sexual assaults, domestic violence, and burglary.

In the first year of the UHCNI grant award, a needs-assessment was conducted to identify the unmet needs of crime victims in the Watts Community and a plan was devised to meet those needs. In year two, a strategic plan was developed for implementing victim services in the Watts Community. Also developed were evaluation, public awareness, and resource development plans.

With the third year of funding, the UHCNI program plans to increase collaboration among local community services and victim assistance to improve the quality of service to unserved and underserved victims in the Watts Community as well as to increase the number of victims served. The continued funding will be used to provide delivery of victim services, enhance existing services, and improve outreach to both English and Spanish speaking residents of Watts. This includes residents who reside in the four housing developments in the community. To accomplish this, the project has the following six goals: (1) implement direct services; (2) maintain an effective Advisory Committee; (3) implement a Public Awareness Campaign; (4) implement an Evaluation Plan; (5) implement an effective Referral Protocol system; and (6) implement a Resource Development Plan.

Two hundred and sixty-six (266) new victims have been served for various crimes including: adult rape, assault, child abuse, domestic violence, hit and run, homicide, property crimes, and robbery since January 2004. One hundred and eighty-eight (188) continuing victims are being served by the program. Training was provided at seven (7) different sites, and program presentations were given at the Aids Project of Los Angeles, Prototypes Women's Link, California Youth Authority-Watts, Parents of Watts, King/Drew Medical Center Community Group and Hospital Police, and the Florence/Firestone Senior Services Center.

The OVC consultant will continue to work with the program staff to use findings from the needs assessment and planning process to develop performance measures.

IMPACT ON CURRENT SERVICES (OR PROJECTS)

This program does not propose attorney staff augmentation. Therefore, the District Attorney's Office is not subject to the Board Motion of December 15, 1998, requiring clearance with the Alternate Public Defender, Probation, Public Defender, and Sheriff's Departments.

Honorable Board of Supervisors
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CONCLUSION

Following Board authorization to accept the grant award for this program, the Executive Officer-Clerk of the Board is requested to return two copies of the adopted Board letter to Ms. Rowena Asai, Contracts and Grants Unit, Los Angeles County District Attorney's Office, 201 North Figueroa Street, Suite 1300, Los Angeles, California 90012. Any questions may be directed to Ms. Asai at (213) 202-7668 or via email at Rasai@da.co.la.ca.us

Very truly yours,


STEVE COOLEY
District Attorney

ra:mmmb

c: Chief Administrative Officer
County Counsel

Los Angeles County Chief Administrative Office
Grant Management Statement for Grants Exceeding \$100,000

Department: District Attorney

Grant Project Title and Description

Urban High Crime Neighborhood Initiative Program

The goal of this program is to combine efforts of local agencies and the Watts community to improve victim services.

Funding Agency
Office for Victims of Crime

Program (Fed. Grant # /State Bill or Code #)
2002-VF-GX-K002

Grant Acceptance Deadline

Total Amount of Grant Funding: \$150,000

County Match: \$0

Grant Period: 9/1/04 – 8/31/05 **Begin Date:** September 1, 2004

End Date: August 31, 2005

Number of Personnel Hired Under This Grant: 4

Full Time: 1 **Part Time:** 3

Obligations Imposed on the County When the Grant Expires

Will all personnel hired for this program be informed this is a grant-funded program? Yes ☒ No ☐

Will all personnel hired for this program be placed on temporary ("N") items? Yes ☒ No ☐

Is the County obligated to continue this program after the grant expires? Yes ☐ No ☒

If the County is not obligated to continue this program after the grant expires, the Department will:

a). Absorb the program cost without reducing other services Yes ☐ No ☒

b). Identify other revenue sources Yes ☐ No ☒
(Describe) _____

c). Eliminate or reduce, as appropriate, positions/program costs funded by the grant. Yes ☒ No ☐

Impact of additional personnel on existing space: None

Other requirements not mentioned above: None

Department Head Signature _____

S.L. Carr

Date _____

8/19/04